CLAIMS

Claims 1-30. (Canceled).

31. (previously presented) A system for managing data associated with mobile assets, comprising:

a management computer for storing asset control data for a plurality of mobile assets in a relational database format;

an asset monitor, for each of a plurality of mobile assets, for monitoring a respective mobile asset to collect asset monitored data, for wirelessly receiving asset control data originated at the management computer, and for controlling operation of the mobile asset in view of the asset monitored data and the received asset control data; and

a wireless communications infrastructure interconnecting the management computer to each of the mobile assets, the infrastructure including a plurality of local monitor nodes each storing asset control data in a relational database format for at least a portion of the plurality of mobile assets that is at least a partial replica of the asset control data stored by the management computer.

32. (previously presented) The system of claim 31 wherein each of the local monitor nodes includes a processor operable to be responsive to received asset control data originated at the management computer, to make decisions concerning operation of the mobile asset in view of the received asset control data and wirelessly communicate instructions for mobile asset operation to the mobile asset.

33. (previously presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the management computer operates to determine to which ones of the plurality of local monitor nodes does the asset control data for a certain one of the plurality of mobile assets need to be communicated.

34. (previously presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the asset monitor is further operable to parse a wirelessly received communication of asset control data to identify and store only that asset control data which is pertinent to the mobile asset.

35. (previously presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the asset data stored by the management computer in a relational database format comprises data relating to controlling access to the mobile assets and authorization for operators to utilize each of the plurality of mobile assets.

36. (previously presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the plurality of local monitor nodes each store at least a portion of the access control data and wirelessly communicate that asset control data to asset monitors.

37. (previously presented) The system of claim 36 wherein the asset monitor is further operable to parse a wirelessly received communication of access control data to identify and store only that access control data which is pertinent to the mobile asset.

38. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the asset monitor prevents access to the mobile asset when asset control data does not correlate to asset monitored data.

39. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the access control data identifies operators approved to access the mobile asset.

40. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the access control data identifies one or more locations at which the mobile asset is permitted to operate.

41. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the access control data identifies at date by which maintenance must be performed on the mobile asset.

42. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein access control data is deleted when a predetermined date is reached.

43. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the access control data includes a schedule of dates and times during which a first user may operate the mobile asset.

Claims 44-50. (canceled)

51. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the mobile asset monitor controls non-immobilized operation of the mobile asset.

52. (previously presented)The system of claim 51, wherein the mobile asset monitor controls non-immobilized operation of the mobile asset by placing the mobile asset in creeper mode.

53. (previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the mobile asset monitor controls non-immobilized operation of the mobile asset by turning on a signal light.

54. (previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the mobile asset monitor controls non-immobilized operation of the mobile asset by turning on a siren.

55. (previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the mobile asset monitor controls non-immobilized operation of the mobile asset by deactivating one or more features of the mobile asset.

56. (previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the mobile asset monitor controls non-immobilized operation of the mobile asset by disabling a lift associated with the mobile asset.

57. (previously presented) The system of claim 51, wherein the mobile asset monitor controls non-immobilized operation of the mobile asset by limiting access to a subset of users approved to operate the mobile asset.